

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 8, 21, 24-25 and 28 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for cleaning an interior of a microwave oven comprising:

an enclosure disposed at least partially around at least one microwave-safe material for effecting a cleaning process;

an outlet disposed on the enclosure; and

a cleaning solution comprising a surfactant and compatible with food preparation, wherein the cleaning solution is in fluid communication through the outlet to the interior of the microwave oven.

2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the at least one microwave-safe material is selected from the group consisting of sponge, cloth, paper, paper towel, shammy and combinations thereof.

3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the enclosure comprises at least one material selected from the group consisting of plastic, paper, cardboard, glass, microwave-safe materials and combinations thereof.

4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the enclosure is deformable to enable the cleaning solution in fluid communication with the interior of the microwave oven.

5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the cleaning solution further comprises at least one component selected from the group consisting of water, emulsifier, fragrance, antibacterial agent and combinations thereof.

6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the surfactant has a concentration in a range from about 0.5% to about 50%.

7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the fragrance is selected from the group consisting of lemon, citrus or pine.

8. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for cleaning an interior of a microwave oven comprising:

an enclosure disposed at least partially around a surfactant solution compatible with food preparation;

an outlet on the enclosure, wherein the surfactant solution is in fluid communication through the outlet to the interior of the microwave oven; and

a cleaning material for effecting a cleaning process.

9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the cleaning material is selected from the group consisting of sponge, cloth, paper, paper towel, shammy and combinations thereof.

10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the enclosure comprises at least one material selected from the group consisting of plastic, paper, cardboard, glass, microwave-safe materials and combinations thereof.

11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the enclosure is deformable to enable the surfactant solution in fluid communication with the interior of the microwave oven.

12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the surfactant solution comprises at least one component selected from the group consisting of water, surfactant, emulsifier, fragrance, antibacterial agent and combinations thereof.

13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the surfactant has a concentration in a range from about 0.5% to about 50%.

14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the fragrance is selected from the group consisting of lemon, citrus or pine.

15. (Original) A method for cleaning an interior of a microwave oven using a cleaning apparatus comprising a cleaning material and an enclosure containing an outlet and a surfactant solution, comprising:

heating the cleaning apparatus with microwave energy for a period to evaporate a portion of the surfactant solution to form a vapor;

emitting the vapor from the enclosure through the outlet;

condensing at least a portion of the vapor onto the interior;

maintaining the microwave oven for a second period to hydrate a residue adhered to the interior; and

removing the residue from the interior with the cleaning material.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the period and the second period are each about 5 minutes.

17. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the cleaning material is selected from the group consisting of sponge, cloth, paper, paper towel, shammy and combinations thereof.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the surfactant solution comprises at least one component selected from the group consisting of water, surfactant, emulsifier, fragrance, antibacterial agent and combinations thereof.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein the surfactant has a concentration in a range from about 0.5% to about 50%.

20. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein deforming the enclosure enables vapor delivery into the microwave oven.

21. (Currently Amended) A method for cleaning an interior of a microwave oven, comprising:

placing a cleaning apparatus in the microwave oven, wherein the cleaning apparatus comprises a cleaning article and a surfactant solution at least partially ~~enclosed by a microwavable material~~ surrounded by an enclosure;

heating the cleaning apparatus for a time period;

evaporating at least a portion of the surfactant solution to form a vapor;

emitting the vapor from the cleaning apparatus;

condensing the vapor on the interior;

hydrating a residue adhered to the interior; and

removing the residue with the cleaning article.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the cleaning article is selected from the group consisting of sponge, cloth, paper, paper towel, shammy and combinations thereof.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein the surfactant solution comprises at least one component selected from the group consisting of water, surfactant, emulsifier, fragrance, antibacterial agent and combinations thereof.

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein deforming the ~~microwavable material~~ enclosure enables vapor delivery into the microwave oven.

25. (Currently Amended) A method for cleaning a microwave oven interior, comprising:

placing a cleaning apparatus in a microwave oven, wherein the cleaning apparatus comprises a cleaning article, a surfactant solution and ~~a microwavable material~~ an enclosure at least partially enclosing the surfactant solution;

heating the cleaning apparatus to form a vapor from at least a portion of the surfactant solution;

delivering the vapor from the cleaning apparatus to the microwave oven interior;

loosening a residue adhered to the microwave oven interior; and

removing the residue with the cleaning article.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein the cleaning article is selected from the group consisting of sponge, cloth, paper, paper towel, shammy and combinations thereof.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the surfactant solution comprises at least one component selected from the group consisting of water, surfactant, emulsifier, fragrance, antibacterial agent and combinations thereof.

28. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 27, wherein deforming the ~~microwavable material~~ enclosure enables vapor delivery to the microwave oven interior.

29. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for cleaning an interior of a microwave oven comprising:

- an enclosure disposed at least partially around a surfactant solution compatible with food preparation, wherein the enclosure comprises at least one material selected from the group consisting of plastic, paper, cardboard, glass, microwave-safe materials and combinations thereof and the enclosure is deformable to enable the surfactant solution in fluid communication with the interior of the microwave oven;

- an outlet on the enclosure wherein the surfactant solution is in fluid communication to the interior of the microwave oven; and

- a cleaning material for effecting a cleaning process.

30. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for cleaning an interior of a microwave oven comprising:

- an enclosure and a seal disposed at least partially around a surfactant solution compatible with food preparation;

- an outlet on the enclosure wherein the surfactant solution is in fluid communication to the interior of the microwave oven upon opening at least a portion of the seal; and

- a cleaning material for effecting a cleaning process.